

REMARKS

As a preliminary matter, applicants appreciate the allowance of claims 6, 11, 17, and 22. Applicants also appreciate the courtesy extended to Patrick G. Burns in a personal interview on September 25, 2008. The rejected claims, the prior art, the present rejections and possible claim amendments were discussed, without reaching agreement. Claims 1 and 12 have been amended along the lines discussed at the interview. The present amendments are supported by Figs. 1, 2A, and 2B, and the discussion of those figures in the specification.

As discussed at the interview, applicants believe that the present amendments avoid the cited references, and along with the other elements of the claims, recite patentable subject matter. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejections is respectfully requested.

For the foregoing reasons, applicants believe that this case is in condition for allowance, which is respectfully requested. The examiner should call applicants' attorney if an interview would expedite prosecution.

Respectfully submitted,

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By



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September 30, 2008
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